

CLAIMS

1. An I.V. flush syringe assembly comprising:

a syringe barrel having an elongated body defining a chamber for retaining fluid, an open proximal end, a distal end and a frusto-conically shaped tip extending from said distal end having a tip passageway therethrough in fluid communication with said chamber, said chamber having an inside diameter of at least 13.5mm (0.53 inch), said chamber having a distal end defined by a distal wall through which said passageway passes, the length of said chamber being no more than 57mm (2.25 inches);

a stopper in fluid-tight engagement inside said barrel;

an elongated rigid plunger rod defining a longitudinal axis and extending proximally from said stopper through said open proximal end of said barrel, a flange at a proximal end of said plunger rod;

a tip cap releasably connected to said tip for sealing said passageway; and

flush solution in said chamber, the ratio of the inside diameter of said chamber to that of said passageway being selected to produce substantially lower pressure in the flush solution injected through said passageway than such pressure in a conventional syringe that contains a substantially similar volume of flush solution.

2. The syringe assembly of claim 1 wherein the length of said chamber is no more than 44.5 mm (1.75 inches).

3. The syringe assembly of claim 1 wherein said chamber contains no more than 3.5ml of flush solution.

4. The syringe assembly of claim 1 wherein said flush solution is selected from the group consisting of saline flush solution and heparin lock flush solution.

5. The syringe assembly of claim 1 wherein said syringe assembly is contained in a package which provides a tamper evident barrier surrounding the syringe assembly.

6. The syringe assembly of claim 1 wherein said syringe assembly is contained in a package which provides a sterile barrier surrounding the syringe assembly.

7. The syringe assembly of claim 1 further including volume measuring indicia on said barrel.

8. The syringe assembly of claim 7 wherein said volume measuring indicia indicates the stopper position for a chamber volume of about 3ml.

9. The syringe assembly of claim 1 wherein said stopper is made of material selected from the group of natural rubber, synthetic rubber, thermoplastic elastomers and combinations thereof.